

# TM Rural Water District Annual Water Quality Report

January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

## Water Quality

Last year, the TM Rural Water District monitored your drinking water for possible contaminants. This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

TM Rural Water District is committed to providing our customers with safe reliable drinking water.

## Water Source

We serve more than 1,475 rural residences and provide wholesale water to the communities of Canistota, Hurley, Marion and Viborg in addition to supplying treated water to an ethanol plant located NW of Marion, SD an average of 1,870,000 gallons of water per day. Our water is groundwater that we produce from local wells.

TM currently has two different sources of ground water that we treat and distribute to our customers.

The Dolton Aquifer, named after and located in the area of Dolton, South Dakota. It is the original aquifer that supplied the source of water for TM and provides a portion of the water used by our customers today.

The Upper Vermillion Missouri Aquifer otherwise known as the Basal Aquifer is the other source of ground water currently utilized by the District and is the larger of the two aquifers. The UVM Aquifer in some places is actually below the Dolton Aquifer.

Finished water is finally blended with a small amount of finished water supplied by B-Y Water User District and the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System.

The state has performed an assessment of

our source water and they have determined that the relative susceptibility rating for the TM Rural Water District public water supply system is low.

For more information about your water and information on opportunities to participate in public meetings, call the TM Office at (605-297-3334).

## Additional Information

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

**Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

**Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

**Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## Water Treatment

The water treatment plant located just to the east of Dolton, South Dakota is where TM brings in the raw water from the Dolton and UVM aquifers.

The water treatment plant utilizes conventional lime softening treatment where raw water is mixed with a lime slurry which then reacts with the calcium and manganese in the water. The calcium, manganese and other solids bond to the lime and settle to the bottom leaving only clarified water that continues onto the next stage of the treatment process.

Carbon Dioxide is then added to the water to further soften the water before it is sent to the filtration process which filters the water through 18 inches of anthracite coal and 12 inches of fine sand where any remaining suspended matter is removed from the water.

Chlorine is then added to the water at the rate of approximately 3.5 parts per million. Chlorine is added in order to kill any bacteria that the water may come in contact with during its travel through the distribution system. The water then flows to the underground storage units under our plant where the chlorine is thoroughly mixed before being sent out into the distribution system.

## Water Distribution

The TM water distribution system is comprised of eight high service pumps, three booster stations, four water towers, and approximately 900 miles of water lines. Water is distributed to customers in six different serving areas in the District. Service areas are created when water is pumped or gravity fed from one service area to another and are typically categorized as having different hydraulic gradients associated with them.

## Additional Information from the EPA

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water



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systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC

guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The TM Rural Water District public water supply system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## Detected Contaminants

The table shown on page 15 list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2016 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2016. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

## Definition of Terms

These definitions are provided in order for you to better understand the results of the testing shown below.

## Questions?

TM Rural Water District firmly believes that it is important that our users read and fully understand this yearly report. We would encourage anyone that has any questions or concerns to contact the TM Rural Water District Office during normal business hours at (605-297-3334).

## Definition of Terms

These definitions are provided in order for you to better understand the results of the testing shown on page 15.

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l)** – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/l)** – a measure of radioactivity.

**Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology. MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one in a million chance of having the described health effect.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. For turbidity, 95% of samples must be less than 0.3 NTU.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – is the cloudiness or haziness of a fluid caused by individual particles (suspended solids) that are generally invisible to the naked eye, similar to smoke in air. The measurement of turbidity is a key test of water quality.

## Summary of 2016 Detected Contaminants in TM's Water

**Antimony** – occurs as a result of discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; and solder. The levels detected are well below those allowed by the EPA.

**Arsenic** – occurs as the result of natural deposits or from runoff from orchards. The levels detected in 2016 are well below those allowed by the EPA.

**Barium** – occurs as a result of erosion of natural deposits. The levels detected in 2016 are well below those allowed by the EPA.

**Chromium** – occurs as a result of erosion of natural deposits. The levels detected in 2016 are well below those allowed by the EPA.

**Fluoride** – is added to our water to promote healthy teeth. The optimum Fluoride level in water is 1.2 ppm.

**Selenium** – a naturally occurring substance found in the soil and rocks of this region. The levels detected in 2016 are well below those allowed by the EPA.

**Nitrite (as Nitrogen)** – can come from runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks or erosion of natural deposits. Levels detected in 2016 are well below those allowed by the EPA.

**Lead and Copper** – Levels are normally a function of home plumbing fixtures. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels in your home may be higher than at other homes throughout the system as a result of the materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may want to have your water tested. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)



## 2016 Table of Detected Contaminants For TM Rural Water District (EPA ID 0999)

Substance	90% Level	Test Sites > Action Level	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (AL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Copper	0.1	0	09/15/16	AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	1	0	09/14/16	AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

  

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Arsenic	2		08/04/14	10	NA	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	0.015		08/04/14	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	1.1		08/04/14	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	0.81	0.43 - 0.81	01/05/16	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Haloacetic Acids	5.58	5.25 - 14.9	09/03/13	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Selenium	1.6		08/04/14	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Total trihalomethanes	7.53	7.53 - 26.1	09/03/13	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.

Please direct questions regarding this information to Mr Jay Jorgensen with the TM Rural Water District public water system at (605)297-3334.

## 2016 Table of Detected Contaminants For Lewis & Clark Regional Water System (EPA ID 2288)

Substance	90% Level	Test Sites > Action Level	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (AL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Copper	0.0	0		AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	0	0		AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

  

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Fluoride	1.11	0.68 - 1.11	01/04/16	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	0.6		07/14/16	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Please direct questions regarding this information to Mr Jim Auen with the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System public water system at (605)624-8700.

## 2016 Table of Detected Contaminants For B-Y Water District (EPA ID 0865)

Substance	90% Level	Test Sites > Action Level	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (AL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Copper	0.1	0	07/28/16	AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	2	0	07/27/16	AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

  

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Antimony	0.3		05/13/13	6	6	ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder.
Arsenic	3		05/13/13	10	NA	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	0.014		05/13/13	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	1.7		05/13/13	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	0.72	0.41 - 0.72	05/17/16	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Haloacetic Acids	16.5	8.21 - 32.4	09/16/13	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Selenium	1.9		05/13/13	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Total trihalomethanes	31.1	20.0 - 61.4	09/16/13	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.

Please direct questions regarding this information to Mr Robert Sternhagen with the Bon Homme-Yankton RWS public water system at (605)463-2531.